

FIG. 2 shows a contact plug 7 and the contact is meant to be to the right of field oxide 4.

Another field oxide region 11 is deposited over a portion of the contact region 12, and the metal plug 7 which would have usually been placed to end on the contact region 12 ends up on the field oxide region 11 instead.

Q² L₁₀ is the overlap area between the oxide region 11, the normal contact region 12 and the placing of the plug 7. The diameter of the plug 7 is preferably not larger than the size of the minimum feature. L₁₀ can be of any size, specified by the fabrication vendor, and is preferably 10% larger than the size of the minimum feature. A preferred contact dimension is up to about three times of the via size.

SUB 7
D1 17. (New) The device of Claim 1, wherein said field oxide layer has an uppermost side, said metal plug contact being disposed on said uppermost side of said field oxide layer.

13 18. (New) The method of Claim 5, wherein said field oxide layer has an uppermost side, said metal plug contact being disposed on said uppermost side of said field oxide layer

D 19. (New) The device of Claim 9, wherein said field oxide layer has an uppermost side, said metal plug contact being disposed on said uppermost side of said field oxide layer.

20. (New) The method of Claim 13, wherein said field oxide layer has an uppermost side, said metal plug contact being disposed on said uppermost side of said field oxide layer.